

Message

From: Buckley, Timothy [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=197A3461D9824A17850F34CC2B0B37FE-BUCKLEY, TIMOTHY]
Sent: 12/5/2019 8:30:05 PM
To: Andrew Gillespie [Gillespie.Andrew@epa.gov]
CC: Barrette, Michael [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=237b7449b0084c8faea3a38d2bb31ea2-Mbarre04]
Subject: FW: ECOS PFAS Caucus Notes (11 19)
Attachments: National PFAS Data Explorer Comms Plan 11-15-19.docx

Andy,

Do you know if this presentation is still planned/expected for the 16th? Perhaps we can discuss before or after our 2:30 call tomorrow. Will you be in the office tomorrow or calling in from home?

Tim

From: Buckley, Timothy
Sent: Tuesday, November 19, 2019 4:59 PM
To: Matthews, Lisa <Matthews.Lisa@epa.gov>
Cc: Gillespie, Andrew <Gillespie.Andrew@epa.gov>; McCabe, Erin <mccabe.erin@epa.gov>; Linkins, Samantha <Linkins.Samantha@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: ECOS PFAS Caucus Notes (11 19)

Lisa,

The PFAS Analytical Tool that Mike Barrette (OECA) has been spearheading has been renamed the National PFAS Data Explorer. The latest description that I've seen from Samantha Linkins' Communications Plan is below. The draft comms plan is attached and I have copied her so that she is aware of your inquiry. We would welcome the opportunity to present 12/16. I will discuss with Andy Gillespie and Mike Barrette who best to do but I suspect it will be me.

Tim

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

From: Matthews, Lisa <Matthews.Lisa@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 19, 2019 3:57 PM

To: Buckley, Timothy <Buckley.Timothy@epa.gov>
Cc: Gillespie, Andrew <Gillespie.Andrew@epa.gov>; McCabe, Erin <mccabe.erin@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: ECOS PFAS Caucus Notes (11 19)

Hi Tim,

Following up to the ECOS PFAS Caucus call this afternoon, what is the National PFAS Data Explorer? Please send Erin and me a short description.

This may be a more timely topic for an EPA presentation for the December 16 ECOS-EPA PFAS Call instead of one of the other research presentations we've been discussing.

Who would be available to present?

Thanks,
 Lisa

From: McCabe, Erin <mccabe.erin@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 19, 2019 3:06 PM
To: Matthews, Lisa <Matthews.Lisa@epa.gov>
Subject: ECOS PFAS Caucus Notes (11 19)

Below are my notes from the PFAS Caucus. Most of the information under the states should be in the presentations that SG sends out, but I've highlighted two bullets from the Q&A portion that I think would be of interest.

Michigan

Statewide biosolids study:

- Evaluate the presence of PFAS in wastewater plants throughout Michigan
- Looked at 42 POTWs/WWTPs in Fall/Winter 2018
 - o Sampled effluent, influent, & biosolids
 - o Screened land application fields from select plants
- Results: Average of 42 sampled biosolids was 150 parts per billion (ppb)
 - o Determined that some were industrial impacted
- Identified 4 plants near or above 1000 ppb
 - o Determined that the biosolids in these plants are no longer acceptable to land apply
- 22 fields screened and sampled soils, groundwater, tile drains, swales, ponding/perched waters and surface waters
 - o 3 were from plants > 1000 ppb
 - o 5 were from plants < 100 ppb
 - o Looked at worst case scenario first
 - o Reports for some fields are final and posted on MPART website

2020 next steps:

- Establish interim PFAS biosolids concentrations screening levels – expect they can be adjusted with new evaluations and data
- Expand biosolids monitoring requirements to select WWTPs
- Continue to evaluate land application as necessary

Maine

Took about 2 years to pass beneficial use rules – adopted in July of 2018

- Established screening concentrations for 3 PFAS compounds (PFBS, PFOA, PFOS)

Dairy farm in southern Maine showed impacts from PFAS

- DW monitoring well on the property showed high levels of PFAS compounds

- Prompted farmer to test the well used for their own drinking wells and for the cows
- The farm had been accepting paper mill residuals and biosolids
 - Paper mill sludge and bioash from 1983-1985
 - Biosolids from 1989 – 2004
- DEP became involved in early 2017 and tested water, milk, soil, manure, hay, and purchased feed
 - Found high levels of PFAS → suspended selling of milk
- → Started looking very closely at residual land application programs
 - No land application of biosolids/paper mill residuals or distribution of biosolids compost until approved by DEP
 - PFAS testing program
 - 73 facilities required to test
 - If over the screening concentrations, they were required to perform pollutant loading rate calculations
 - Data on 47 sludges
 - Rults:
 - PFBS not an issue
 - 64% of sludge samples exceeded for PFOA
 - 90% of sludge samples exceeded for PFOS
 - 89% of compost exceeded for PFOA
 - 74% of compost exceeded for PFOS
 - No paper mill residuals exceeded for either PFOA or PFOS
 - 19% of site-specific soils exceeded for PFOA (data skewed)
 - 57% of site-specific soils exceeded for PFOS (data skewed)

Current Activity

- 13 composts approved for distribution
- 7 Class B programs approved to land-apply on some fields
- 3 Class B programs not able to land-apply
 - Posed a big issue for one facility – DEP was able to offer some grant money
- All paper mill residuals approved for distribution

Moving forward

- Ongoing testing requirements
- Bureau of Water Quality providing grants
 - Emergency dewatering
 - Planning grants for dewatering infrastructure
 - Possible construction grants
- PFAS Task Force
 - Established March 2019
- Septage sampling
- Groundwater sampling at current and/or former land application sites?

Q&A:

- Alaska: Did any of the wastewater plants distribute biosolids to private areas (farms/homes)
 - Yes, biosolids went to farms, but not to private homes with gardens.
- Worked with ORD looking at 12 different locations in Michigan to determine if there were PFOS concentrations in those, expect results to come out soon (related to chrome plating?)
 - AZ: If a chromeplater is no longer using PFOS missapresence (?) are you still seeing PFOS in the discharge?
 - MI: Yes,
- What levels did MI use to establish fish consumption advisory?
 - Dept of Health & Human services did this – tiered approach

- Reuben Baris, EPA OW Biosolids team – Trying to get a better handle on the activity going on in all states. Would be helpful to see the different types of effort and how they align. Hosting an EPA biosolids meeting (last one was in 2011). EPA will be sponsoring one individual in all 50 states to participate in the meeting. Date is not confirmed, but looking at mid-May for now.
- July 30 STEP meeting will focus on PFAS (there was a lot of background noise, not positive it was STEP)
- Tim Buckley – National PFAS data explorer should be launched by end of the year. Can schedule a demo in mid to late-December for ECOS if it's of interest.